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SAN DIEGO, CA 92192-8289		ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER		
		2671		

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/713,319

**Applicant(s)**

RAO, SUMITA

**Examiner**

Roberta Prendergast

**Art Unit**

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 November 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)          |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)               | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. <u>20051201</u> .                                    |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.                                    |

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was discussed: Examiner requested clarification of claim 10. Applicant's representative stated that the first segment would include the callback identifier of the second segment, for example, if the first segment of a .gif file was A1 and the callback identifier of the second segment was A2, then the name of the first segment might be A1A2.gif.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Drawings*

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: Fig. 1 element 32.

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference characters "41" and "51" have both been used to designate an end of file indicator.

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: Fig. 1 element 54.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d), or amendment to the specification to add the reference character(s) in the description in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(b) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the examiner does not accept the changes, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 20-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

A set of animation segment files, in computer readable format, is not claimed as embodied in a computer readable media.

Data structures not claimed as embodied in computer-readable material are descriptive material *per se* and are not statutory because they are not capable of causing functional change in the computer. Such claimed data structures do not define any structural and functional interrelationships between the data structure and other claimed aspects of the invention, which permit the data structure's functionality to be realized.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4, 7-14, 16-18, and 20-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carmel et al. U.S. Patent No. 5841432 in view of Obrador U.S. Patent No. 2003/0191776.

Referring to claim 1, Carmel et al. teaches a method for displaying an animation, comprising receiving an instruction to display an animation, the animation comprising a plurality of images ordered for sequential display (Figs. 1, 2, and 8; column 2, lines 16-31, i.e. an animation consisting of a plurality of image files is created and stored and then the end user requests an animation file), retrieving an animation file responsive to the instruction, the animation file providing an ordering of the images (Figs. 4, 7, and 9, i.e. images in each frame are ordered by layers and frames are sequentially ordered from start to finish), determining a first set of the images, which in display order, aggregate to a size less than a maximum size (column 4, lines 40-67; column 5, lines 8-23 and 37-57), a first set of images having a final image, determining a second set of the images, which in display order, aggregate to a size less than a maximum size, an image in the second set being in sequence behind the final image, generating a first segment file indicative of the first set of images, generating a second segment file indicative of the second set of images (Figs. 4 and 9; column 4, lines 14-56, i.e. each frame is a segment file comprised of a set of images and comprises a final complete image whose size is less than the maximum size and the maximum size of each segment is the total number of images and the maximum size of the animation file is the total number of frames), associating a callback identifier with the second segment file, providing the callback identifier along with the first segment file (Fig. 4(elements 73-75);

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column 4, lines 62-67; column 5, lines 1-36, i.e. each frame has a frame id, number of layers, and a layer id and each image has an image id, each layer id is associated with an image id used to identify a particular image), loading the first set of images into an animation processor memory according to the first segment file, displaying sequentially each image in the first set as a first animation segment, and displaying sequentially each image in the second set as a second animation segment (Abstract; Figs. 4, 8, and 9; column 2, lines 16-50; column 4, lines 16-43; column 6, lines 54-65) but does not specifically teach retrieving the callback identifier from the first segment file, using the callback identifier to load the second set of images into the animation processor according to the second segment file.

Obrador teaches a first set of images having a final image, determining a second set of the images, which in display order, aggregate to a size less than a maximum size, an image in the second set being in sequence behind the final image, generating a first segment file indicative of the first set of images, generating a second segment file indicative of the second set of images, associating a callback identifier with the second segment file, providing the callback identifier along with the first segment file, retrieving the callback identifier from the first segment file, using the callback identifier to load the second set of images into the animation processor according to the second segment file (Fig. 8; pages 2-3, paragraph [0027]; page 3, paragraph [0032]; page 4, paragraphs [0035] and [0036], i.e. the callback identifier is a link comprising a pointer from the 1<sup>st</sup> video animation file to the 2<sup>nd</sup> video animation file to be displayed).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method for displaying an animation of Carmel et al. to include retrieving the callback identifier from the first segment file, using the callback identifier to load the second set of images into the animation processor according to the second segment file thereby providing pointers for indexing and linking media objects such as text, audio, graphics, and animated graphics in a wide variety of different forms (page 2, paragraph [0024]).

Referring to claim 2, the rationale for claim 1 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the method for displaying an animation according to claim 1, wherein each of the images are stored as individual graphics files (column 6, lines 50-65, i.e. each image is stored as an individual thumbnail graphics file).

Referring to claim 3, the rationale for claim 1 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the method for displaying an animation according to claim 1, wherein the animation file further comprises information indicative of the size of individual ones of the images, and the size information is used in determining the first set of images (column 4, lines 31-45 and 62-67; column 5, lines 29-44, i.e. each animation file includes information comprising the total number of images and total number of frames, each frame file includes the number of layers, each layer includes an image id, and each image file includes the number of objects).

Referring to claim 4, the rationale for claim 1 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the method for displaying an animation according to claim 1, wherein the maximum size is set at a number of images (column 4, lines 24-45;



column 5, lines 36-37, i.e. each frame segment contains a maximum size of up to five images/layers containing a maximum of up to 255 objects per image).

Referring to claim 7, the rationale for claim 1 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the method for displaying an animation according to claim 1, wherein the first segment file provides a file identifier for each of the images in the first set (Fig. 4(elements 71-75); column 5, lines 8-35, i.e. each frame segment contains the number of layers 1-n, each layer contains a layer id 1-n, each layer also contains an image id corresponding to a particular image that is identified by the image id number).

Referring to claim 8, the rationale for claim 1 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the method for displaying an animation according to claim 1 wherein the associating step includes using the callback identifier as a name for the second segment file (Fig. 4(element 75); column 5, lines 8-35, i.e. each image is identified by the image id number and thus the image id is understood to be the name of the image).

Referring to claim 9, the rationale for claim 1 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the method for displaying an animation according to claim 1 wherein the associating step includes placing the callback identifier as data in the second segment file (Fig. 4(element 75); column 5, lines 8-35, i.e. each image is identified by the image id number, which is stored in the image segment file, and thus the image id is understood to be the callback identifier of the image).

Referring to claim 10, the rationale for claim 1 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the method for displaying an animation according to claim 1 wherein providing the callback identifier includes using the callback identifier as part of a name for the first segment file.

At the time the invention was made, it would have been an obvious matter to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include using the callback identifier as part of a name for the first segment file in the invention of Carmel because Applicant has not disclosed that including using the callback identifier as part of a name for the first segment file provides an advantage, is used for a particular purpose, or solves a stated problem. One of ordinary skill in the art, furthermore, would have expected Carmel's invention, and applicant's invention, to perform equally well with either the segment file naming convention taught by Carmel or the claimed segment file naming convention because both segment file naming conventions would perform the same function of naming the sequential animation segment files equally well.

Therefore, it would have been prima facie obvious to modify Carmel to obtain the invention as specified in claim 10 because such a modification would have been considered a mere design consideration which fails to patentably distinguish over the prior art of Carmel.

Referring to claim 11, the rationale for claim 1 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the method for displaying an animation according to claim 1 wherein providing the callback identifier includes placing the callback identifier

as data in the first segment file (Fig. 4(element 71-75); column 5, lines 8-35, i.e. each layer segment contains the image id of a particular image file).

Referring to claim 12, the rationale for claim 1 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the method for displaying an animation according to claim 1 wherein the second set of images are being loaded into the animation processor while the images in the first set are being displayed (Abstract; column 5, lines 3-7).

Referring to claim 13, the rationale for claim 1 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches a method of generating animation segment files, comprising receiving an animation file that identifies and orders a set of images (Figs. 4, 7, and 9, i.e. images in each frame are ordered by layers and frames are sequentially ordered from start to finish), dividing the set of images into sequential subsets of images, each subset smaller than a maximum size and indicative of an animation segment (Figs. 4 and 9; column 4, lines 14-56, i.e. each frame is a segment file comprised of a set of images and comprises a final complete image whose size is less than the maximum size and the maximum size of each segment is the total number of images and the maximum size of the animation file is the total number of frames), associating a subset identifier with each respective subset(Fig. 4(elements 73-75); column 4, lines 62-67; column 5, lines 1-36, i.e. each frame has a frame id, number of layers, and a layer id and each image has an image id, each layer id is associated with an image id used to identify a particular image), but does not specifically teach associating an action instruction with each respective segment, and wherein the action instruction associated with one subset identifies another one of the subsets.

Obrador teaches associating an action instruction with each respective segment, and wherein the action instruction associated with one subset identifies another one of the subsets (Fig. 8; pages 2-3, paragraph [0027]; page 3, paragraph [0032]; page 4, paragraphs [0035] and [0036], i.e. the action instruction is a link comprising a pointer from the 1<sup>st</sup> video animation file to the next video animation file to be displayed).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method for displaying an animation of Carmel et al. to include associating an action instruction with each respective segment, and wherein the action instruction associated with one subset identifies another one of the subsets thereby providing pointers for indexing and linking media objects such as text, audio, graphics, and animated graphics in a wide variety of different forms (page 2, paragraph [0024]).

Referring to claim 14, claim 14 recites the limitations of claims 4 and 13 and therefore the rationale for the rejection of claims 4 and 13 are incorporated herein.

Referring to claim 16, the rationale for claim 13 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the method of generating animation segment files according to claim 13, but does not specifically teach wherein an action instruction is used to identify the last subset.

Obrador teaches wherein an action instruction is used to identify the last subset (Fig. 8; pages 2-3, paragraph [0027]; page 3, paragraph [0032]; page 4, paragraphs [0035] and [0036], i.e. the action instruction contains a link comprising a pointer from the

1<sup>st</sup> video animation file to the next video animation file to be displayed, if there are no more frames the pointer will be null indicating that the current subset is the last subset).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method for displaying an animation of Carmel et al. to include wherein an action instruction is used to identify the last subset thereby providing pointers for indexing and linking media objects such as text, audio, graphics, and animated graphics in a wide variety of different forms (page 2, paragraph [0024]).

Referring to claim 17, claim 17 recites the limitations of claim 1 and therefore the rationale for the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated herein.

Referring to claim 18, claim 18 recites the limitations of claims 12 and 17 and therefore the rationale for the rejection of claims 12 and 17 are incorporated herein.

Referring to claim 20, claim 20 recites the limitations of claims 1 and 17 and therefore the rationale for the rejection of claims 1 and 17 are incorporated herein.

Referring to claim 21, the rationale for claims 16 and 20 are incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the set of animation segment files according to claim 20 (Figs. 4 and 9; column 2, lines 16-33; column 4, lines 31-45, i.e. each frame is an animation segment file), further comprising a third segment file identifying a third subset of images, an action instruction associated with the third segment file, and wherein the action instruction indicates the third segment file is the last segment file (Fig. 4(element 63); column 4, lines 27-31, i.e. the 3<sup>rd</sup> frame is understood to be the 3<sup>rd</sup> segment file and is the last segment file if the total number of frames is three).

Referring to claim 22, the rationale for claim 20 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the set of animation segment files according to claim 20, further including a graphics file storing the first subset of images and the second subset of images (column 4, lines 16-45, i.e. the animation graphics file stores the frame image subsets).

Referring to claim 23, the rationale for claim 20 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the set of animation segment files according to claim 20, further including a plurality of graphics file storing the first subset of images and the second subset of images (column 4, lines 16-45; column 6, lines 54-65, i.e. the animation graphics file stores the frame graphics files which store the image thumbnail graphics files).

Referring to claim 24, claim 24 recites the limitations of claims 1 and 17 and therefore the rationale for the rejection of claims 1 and 17 are incorporated herein.

Referring to claim 25, the rationale for claim 24 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the method for sequencing according to claim 24, wherein at least one of the media objects is a sound file and at least another one of the media objects is an animation file (columns 5-6, lines 60-8).

Referring to claim 26, the rationale for claim 24 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the method for sequencing according to claim 24, wherein the media objects are sound files (column 6, lines 3-8) but does not specifically teach wherein all the media objects are sound files.

Obrador teaches wherein all the media objects are sound files (page 2, paragraph [0024], i.e. a media object representing digital audio content may be packaged and presented individually).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Carmel et al. to include wherein all the media objects are sound files thereby providing pointers for indexing and linking media objects such as text, audio, graphics, and animated graphics in a wide variety of different forms (page 2, paragraph [0024]).

Referring to claim 27, the rationale for claim 24 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the method for sequencing according to claim 24, wherein all the media objects are image files (Figs. 4 and 9; column 2, lines 16-50).

Referring to claim 28, the rationale for claim 24 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the method for sequencing according to claim 24, further including a third one of the media objects, but does not specifically teach the third media object having an action instruction indicative of a duration to present the third media object.

Obrador teaches a third media object having an action instruction indicative of duration to present the third media object (page 4, paragraph [0036], i.e. the length of a sequence is understood to be the duration).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Carmel et al. to include the third media object having an action instruction indicative of a duration to present the

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third media object thereby providing pointers for indexing and linking media objects such as text, audio, graphics, and animated graphics in a wide variety of different forms (page 2, paragraph [0024]).

Referring to claim 29, the rationale for claim 24 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the method for sequencing according to claim 24, but does not specifically teach wherein the first media object has an action instruction for loading and presenting a third one of the media objects, the third media object being presented concurrently with the first media object.

Obrador teaches wherein the first media object has an action instruction for loading and presenting a third one of the media objects, the third media object being presented concurrently with the first media object (page 2, paragraph [0024], i.e. media objects comprising digital content such as animated graphics and audio may be packaged and presented in combination in a wide variety of forms).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Carmel et al. to include wherein the first media object has an action instruction for loading and presenting a third one of the media objects, the third media object being presented concurrently with the first media object thereby providing pointers for indexing and linking media objects such as text, audio, graphics, and animated graphics in a wide variety of different forms (page 2, paragraph [0024]).

Referring to claim 30, the rationale for claim 29 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the method for sequencing according to claim 29, but



does not specifically teach wherein the third media object continues to be presented after the second media object has started to be presented.

Obrador teaches wherein the third media object continues to be presented after the second media object has started to be presented (page 2, paragraph [0024], i.e. multiple media objects comprising digital content such as animated graphics and audio may be packaged and presented in combination in a wide variety of forms).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Carmel et al. to include wherein the third media object continues to be presented after the second media object has started to be presented thereby providing pointers for indexing and linking media objects such as text, audio, graphics, and animated graphics in a wide variety of different forms (page 2, paragraph [0024]).

Claims 5, 6, 15 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carmel et al. U.S. Patent No. 5841432 in view of Obrador U.S. Patent No. 2003/0191776 as applied to claims 1, 13, and 17 above, and further in view of Crosby U.S. Patent No. 5113493.

Referring to claim 5, the rationale for claim 1 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the method for displaying an animation according to claim 1, but does not specifically teach wherein the maximum size is set at a memory size.

Crosby teaches wherein the maximum size is set at a memory size (column 8, lines 13-43, i.e. reading in large groups of animation file records according to file size and computer memory size such that the file size is kept within the limit of what may be entirely read into memory).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Carmel et al. to include wherein the maximum size is set at a memory size thereby eliminating undesirable pauses due to file access and reducing file access time (column 8, lines 34-43).

Referring to claim 6, the rationale for claim 1 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the method for displaying an animation according to claim 1, but does not teach wherein the maximum size is generated responsive to an inquiry regarding available memory.

Crosby teaches wherein the maximum size is generated responsive to an inquiry regarding available memory (column 8, lines 13-43, i.e. it is understood that reading in large groups of animation file records according to file size and computer memory size such that the file size is kept within the limit of what may be entirely read into memory would necessitate an inquiry regarding available memory).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Carmel et al. to include wherein the maximum size is generated responsive to an inquiry regarding available memory thereby eliminating undesirable pauses due to file access and reducing file access time (column 8, lines 34-43).

Referring to claim 15, claim 15 recites the limitations of claims 5 and 13 and therefore the rationale for the rejection of claims 5 and 13 are incorporated herein.

Referring to claim 19, the rationale for claim 17 is incorporated herein, Carmel et al., as modified above, teaches the method of displaying an animation according to claim 17, but does not specifically teach including generating a release-memory instruction after displaying the images in the first subset of images, and releasing the memory holding the images in the first subset of images.

Crosby teaches including generating a release-memory instruction after displaying the images in the first subset of images, and releasing the memory holding the images in the first subset of images (column 4, lines 55-57).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Carmel et al. to include including generating a release-memory instruction after displaying the images in the first subset of images, and releasing the memory holding the images in the first subset of images thereby freeing up memory for the next image segment to be transmitted eliminating undesirable pauses due to file access and reducing file access time (column 8, lines 34-43).

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The following patents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to generating animation segment files for transmission and display.

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Chen U.S. Patent No. 6081278

Chen U.S. Patent No. 6268864

The following patents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to sequencing a plurality of media objects into a presentation.

Goldberg et al. U.S. Patent No. 5655117

Walmsley U.S. Patent No. 5659792

Gudmundson et al. U.S. Patent No. 5680619

Trower, II et al. U.S. Patent No. 5983190

Qureshi et al. U.S. Patent No. 6396500

Valdez, Jr. U.S. Patent No. 6426778

Rose et al. U.S. Patent No. 6476802

Rose et al. U.S. Patent No. 6538654

Rose et al. U.S. Patent No. 6563504

Rose et al. U.S. Patent No. 6587109

Rose et al. U.S. Patent No. 6674437

Eyal et al. U.S. Patent No. 6721741

The following foreign patents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to sequencing a plurality of media objects into a presentation.

B.K. Dahl WO 9602898 A1 1996

T. Iwasaki JP 11275495 A

T. Miwa EP 1424839 A1

Jang et. al. KR 2003017890 A

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Roberta Prendergast whose telephone number is (571) 272-7647. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ulka Chauhan can be reached on (571) 272-7782. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

RP

  
ULKA CHAUHAN  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER